

Message Text

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ORIGIN OPIC-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, GW

SUBJECT: GERMAN INTERESTS IN RENEWING BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON INVESTMENT INSURANCE.

REF: BONN 30336, DATED 12/16/75

1. OPIC MOST DESIROUS OF MAINTAINING CONTINUING AND FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH GERMAN COUNTERPART. HOWEVER, CONCERNED ABOUT PROLIFERATION OF BILATERAL CONSULTATIVE AGREEMENTS ON MATTERS WHICH MIGHT BE MORE APPROPRIATELY REVIEWED IN EXISTING MECHANISMS, INCLUDING OECD/DAC AND BERNE UNION. BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WERE DISCONTINUED NOT REPEAT NOT BECAUSE OF "PIQUE", BUT BECAUSE DECISION TAKEN TO BROADEN BERNE UNION TO DEAL WITH INVESTMENT INSURANCE MATTERS OF INTEREST TO MANY CAPITAL EXPORTING COUNTRIES, INCLUDING GERMANY AND U.S.

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2. OPIC BELIEVES THE IDEAL SOLUTION WOULD BE STRENGTH-

ENING GERMAN PARTICIPATION IN THE BERNE UNION. HOWEVER,
IF FINANCE AND ECONOMICS MINISTRIES CONTINUE TO URGE
BILATERAL CONSULTATION, OPIC PREPARED TO EXTEND INVITATION
TO MEET IN APPROPRIATE U.S. LOCATION AT TIME TO BE AGREED
UPON. THE PREFERENCE FOR MULTI-LATERAL FORUM FOR
INSTITUTIONALIZING EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND VIEWS,

HOWEVER, SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS A NEGATIVE REACTION TO
FRIENDLY OVERTURE ON PART OF GERMAN OFFICIALS. THEREFORE,
YOU MAY WISH TO EMPHASIZE OPIC'S WILLINGNESS TO SET UP
MEETING IN U.S. IF STILL DESIRED. IN THAT REGARD, THERE
ARE CERTAIN ISSUES, NOTABLY THE PROSPECTS FOR REVIVING
A SCHEME FOR MULTI-LATERAL INSURANCE OF INVESTMENTS WITH
THE PARTICIPATION OF HOME AND HOST GOVERNMENTS, WHICH
MIGHT BENEFIT FROM A BI-LATERAL REVIEW.

3. IN DISCUSSING THE POTENTIAL OF THE BERNE UNION YOU
MAY WISH TO REFER TO VERY BROAD AGENDA PROPOSED TO BERNE
UNION BY OPIC. AGENDA WOULD INCLUDE REVIEW POLICY AS
WELL AS TECHNICAL MATTERS, COUNTRY RISK ASSESSMENTS, ETC.
COPY OF PROPOSED AGENDA BEING FORWARDED BY AIR THIS DATE
FOR USE IN YOUR DISCUSSION WITH GERMAN OFFICIALS.
DECONTROL ONE YEAR FROM DATE. ROBINSON

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